

Additionally, I wish to congratulate and thank the following men and women who have agreed to assume additional responsibilities as officers and board members for 2014:

Chief: Roger Waller
 President: Gary Moore
 Vice President: Sean Bhatti
 Treasurer: Ronald Waller
 Secretary: Diana Phan
 Directors: Shirley Binsky, Michael Hassan, and Peter Snitzer

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2013 award recipients and in commending the Annandale Volunteer Fire Department for 73 years of service. I thank the brave volunteers whose dedication to public safety is deserving of our highest praise, and to each of these men and women I say: "Stay safe."

IN HONOR OF THE SALINAS SCHOOL OF DANCE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Salinas School of Dance, which is celebrating its seventy-fifth year of excellence in dance instruction in Salinas, California.

The Salinas School of Dance was founded in 1938 by professional dancer Mr. Ramon Renov, who brought his world class dance experience to the small farming town of Salinas. He performed in the esteemed Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo in Europe and the United States. Mr. Renov retired in 1980 and bestowed ownership to Lisa Eisemann. She has continued a reputation of excellence, maintaining high standards in curriculum and teaching, and constant upgrades to make the studio the heart of the City of Salinas. Ms. Eisemann continues to teach Russian Vaganova style ballet to students of all ages.

The Salinas School of Dance studio is now home to two structured companies; the Salinas Valley Civic Ballet Company and the Spirit of Salinas Irish Dancers. Ballet, tap, jazz, Irish dance and Tappin' Dad classes are taught five days a week. The Spirit of the Irish Dancers is a high performance group that has performed at many local and international events. Two years ago, they performed for the Lord Mayor of Drogheda, Ireland who invited them to visit Ireland and told the Mayor of Salinas that the dance group's skills supersede that of his own country's Irish Dancers.

Every child is welcome to learn and dance at the Salinas School of Dance. Currently, they have children with serious learning disabilities and one young man that has a prosthetic leg and one arm. His parents recently commented that being in ballet has given him confidence that nothing else has provided. He is ten years old and it's his second year at the studio. It is because of Ms. Eisemann's ability to connect with the community and her leadership skills that many of its dance classes remain full year round throughout Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties.

For seventy-five years, the Salinas School of Dance has been a positive fixture in the community. With structure, personal responsibility, respect, and commitment forming the foundation of the dance program, it is no won-

der that the Salinas School of Dance has endured and become one of the oldest businesses in Salinas.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Salinas School of Dance on its seventy-five years of excellence and wish you many more years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING UNC-TV FOR BEING HONORED AS AN AMERICAN GRADUATE CHAMPION

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate UNC-TV and WTVI-PBS Charlotte for being honored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) as an American Graduate Champion.

The American Graduate Champion award is presented by the CPB to public media outlets which demonstrate commitment to help increase awareness of the perils of dropping out of high school and to help communities implement solutions to the problem. UNC-TV has exhibited a wide variety of programming focused on improving educational outcomes for students throughout North Carolina including airing a weekly series titled "Black Issues Forum," hosting a panel discussion before a live audience called "Bridge to Success" at Union Independent School in Durham, North Carolina, and participating in the "virtual teacher town hall" project with other groups throughout the country.

I was honored to participate in UNC-TV's recognition of "American Graduate Day" on September 28, 2013. The valuable programming on UNC-TV has helped connect communities and identify practical solutions to educational challenges facing students, parents, teachers, and schools across North Carolina's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I commend UNC-TV for its contributions to students and families throughout North Carolina. Encouraging students to stay in school has never been more important because a high school degree is a critical building block to success in today's competitive global economy. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating UNC-TV's great achievement by being recognized as an American Graduate Champion.

Thank you very much.

SHARING STORIES IN SUPPORT OF COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the following is one additional story of yet another individual affected by our nation's broken immigration system:

My parents came here 12 years ago from Mexico. I am an American citizen, but right now I am suffering a lot because my dad is detained in an immigration jail. I have three brothers and we all miss my dad very much.

Mr. Speaker, these stories represent but a small cross-section of those suffering as a result of our nation's outdated immigration laws. Millions more remain in the shadows. They all have waited long enough for Congress to act. The time for reform is now.

HONORING THE LEWISTON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lewiston Firefighters Association for its service to Maine's children through its partnership with Operation Warm.

As firefighters, the members of the Lewiston Firefighters Association are committed to putting the safety and interests of the community before themselves, and their partnership with Operation Warm is a continuation of this tradition of selfless service. Throughout the fall, the Lewiston Firefighters Association engaged in a community outreach effort to raise funds to keep our children warm during Maine's harsh winter months. As a result of their outreach efforts, the Lewiston Firefighters Association will be donating one hundred, brand new winter coats to the children of Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care.

Since 1998, Operation Warm has partnered with organizations like the Lewiston Firefighters Association to provide winter coats to more than one million children in need. Especially in a state like Maine, where winter temperatures routinely fall far below freezing, our children are highly susceptible to illness, jeopardizing their health and education. By keeping our children warm and healthy, these coats minimize the chance that they will have to miss school.

On Tuesday, November 26, 2013, the Lewiston Firefighters Association will donate one hundred coats to the children of Androscoggin Head Start and Child Care at the Lewiston Central Fire Station in Lewiston, Maine. Through their commitment to service, these firefighters serve as exemplary role models for our children and truly represent the strong community spirit of the people of Maine.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in recognizing the Lewiston Firefighters Association for its partnership with Operation Warm and efforts on behalf of Maine's neediest children.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CORINNE CLAIBORNE "LINDY" BOGGS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, with great affection at this Thanksgiving season, to honor, remember, and celebrate the life of Representative "Lindy" Marie Corinne Morrison Claiborne Boggs, of New Orleans, Louisiana, who passed from this life earlier this year on July 27, 2013, but whose accomplishments and legacy continue to inspire her family, her constituency, her colleagues, and all whose lives she so generously influenced.